



DARLENE M. HARRIS
President of Council
Councilwoman, City of Pittsburgh - District 1



October 4, 2012

Mr. Gary B. Bettman, Commissioner
National Hockey League
1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10036

Mr. Donald Fehr, Executive Director
National Hockey League Players' Association
20 Bay Street, Suite 1700
Toronto, ON M5J 2N8
CANADA

Dear Commissioner Bettman and Mr. Fehr:

I am disappointed by your decision to cancel the National Hockey League (NHL) preseason in its entirety and urge you to act without delay to negotiate an agreement that allows the regular season to go forward as scheduled.

In Pittsburgh, like many communities across the country, professional sports are closely tied to our local economy. The cancellation of the preseason will negatively affect workers, businesses, and families in our city, and a failure to resolve this dispute in time for the regular season would impose an even greater hardship. Dozens of businesses and hundreds of workers in Pittsburgh depend on the hockey season for their livelihood. This past June, we saw an example of the NHL's economic impact in Pittsburgh as host to the NHL Draft at the Consol Energy Center.

In addition to being a positive economic force, the Penguins are an important point of pride for the City of Pittsburgh. The Penguins organization and the City of Pittsburgh turned the Winter Classic into a weeklong celebration of hockey in the city and throughout the region. Pittsburgh left its mark on the hockey world when on New Year's Day 2011, in the midst of a rainstorm, the Penguins and Capitals dropped the puck in front of 68,111 fans and 4.5 million home viewers in the NHL's first primetime outdoor showcase.

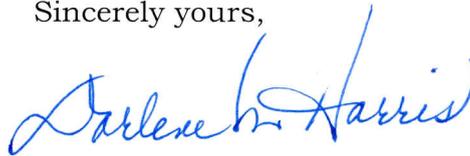
City, Regional and State taxpayers have made a significant investment in the NHL and the sport through a business agreement that has created a state of the art home for hockey in Pittsburgh into the future. That agreement is predicated upon the return of tax revenue, business development and enjoyment of the sport, all of which are not being realized by this work stoppage.

510 City-County Building • Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219
412-255-2135 • Fax: 412-255-2129
darlene.harris@city.pittsburgh.pa.us

Businesses, workers and hockey fans played no role in causing this dispute, and it is unfair for our City to have to bear this burden. As a strong union advocate, I hope you are able to resolve this dispute soon. Pittsburgh City Council will keep a close eye on your negotiations with hope that you will work diligently and quickly to resolve this matter. Please do not disappoint us.

If we can be of any assistance please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely yours,



Darlene M. Harris
President, Pittsburgh City Council
Councilwoman, District 1
Sports and Exhibition Authority Member